Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi

20. Director, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareily

21. Director, Exotic Cattle Breeding Farm, Chamoli, U.P.

Production of Steel by Private Steel Plant under the Liberalised Steel Policy

*54. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Policy has been liberalised allowing private steel plants to produce upto one million tonnes of steel; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF **LAW** AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided to allow creation of additional steel making capacity in the private sector with unit capacity upto one million tonnes based on electric arc furnace/energy optimising technologies including small blast furnaces. Entrepreneurs will have the option to decide the plant si/e keeping in view the product mix and technology to be adopted.

Rise in Government Borrowings and External Debt

***55.** SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of rise in Government borrowings and total external debt as on date (in foreign exchange);

(b) that percentage of foreign borrowings went towards debt servicing and what percentage of export earnings is used for debt servicing annually;

(c) what are the priorities, if any, for reducing Government expenditure stating the areas identified for the purpose and whether Government subsidies are proposed to be reduced; and

(d) what is the overall picture likely to emerge as a consequence thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b) There has been an increase of about 16 per cent in Government borrowings (domestic plus external) during 1989-90 over that of 1988-89. The total external debt outstanding as on 31.3.1990 is estimated to be US $ 46751 million equivalent to Rs. 80132 crores at the prevailing exchange rate. The total debt service payment (i.e. repayment of principal and payment of interest) is estimated to be 21.6 percent of country's exports and gross invisible earnings.

(c) and (d) All Ministries have been advised to make sustained efforts for reducing burden of administrative expenditure and exercise careful scrutiny of all ongoing programmes and schemes. Steps have also been taken to closely monitor expenditure so as to ensure that it does not exceed the budgetary targets. The Government will present to Parliament a review of the budgetary position every four months of the current year.

Supply of Water to Bangladesh from Farakka Barrage

*56. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the quantity of water released to Bangladesh during the last three years, yearwise from Farakka Barrage;

(b) whether the quantity has been